

S rial N .: 09/039,927
Filed: March 16, 1998

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, lines 7-13, with the following rewritten paragraph:

E4
– Figures 4A-B depict that I_{5HT} is mediated by activation of a G-protein. (A) The effect of PTX treatment (500 ng/ml, 20-26 h) on I_{hK} and I_{5HT} . The cells were injected with 120 ng/oocyte total atrial RNA, 11 ng/oocyte 5HT1A-R RNA, and, where indicated, with 11 ng/oocyte $G_{i2\alpha}$ RNA. (B) GDP- β -S injection inhibits I_{5HT} but not I_{hK} in an oocyte injected with atrial + 5HT1A-R RNAs. 5HT concentration was 0.4 μ M. A small outward current deflection (denoted by ★) upon washout of 5HT was caused by an inadvertent perfusion of ND96 for a few seconds.–

In the Claims

Please amend the following claim:

- E5
18. (Amended) A method for screening for agents that inhibit the activity of a Kir3.0 channel, the method comprising:
- a) combining [forming a functional Kir3.0 channel from] at least two different inward rectifier, G-protein activated, mammalian, potassium Kir3.0 polypeptides to form a functional Kir3.0 channel;
 - b) combining the candidate agent with said Kir3.0 channel under conditions that permit inward K⁺ current;
 - c) determining the induced current, wherein a reduction in said induced current in the presence of said agent as compared to a control is indicative that said agent inhibits the activity of a Kir3.0 channel.

REMARKS

Claim 18 has been amended. Support for amended claim 18 is found on page 7, lines 13-18 of the specification as well as in Example 2 on pages 29-33 of the specification. Amended claim 18 and claims 19-24 are now pending. Amendments to the specification are indicated in the section entitled "Versions With Markings to Show Changes Made" and a list